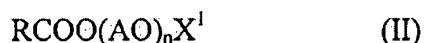


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A plant-activating composition comprising a plant-activating agent and a fertilizer component, said plant-activating agent is a compound of formula (II),



wherein R represents an alkyl or alkenyl group having 11 to 29 carbon atoms; X^1 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl or acyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms or an alkenyl group having 2 to 30 carbon atoms; AO represents at least one group selected from oxyethylene, oxypropylene and oxybutylene groups and may be random or block; n represents an average number of moles added and is zero to 30; and wherein the plant-activating agent is in an aqueous solution or aqueous dispersion and is in a concentration of 0.01 to 500 ppm,

wherein when n is zero in formula (II), X^1 is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl or acyl group having 1-30 carbon atoms or an alkenyl group having 2-30 carbon atoms, and

wherein when n is 1 to 30 in formula (II), X^1 is an alkyl or acyl group having 1-30 carbon atoms or an alkenyl group having 2-30 carbon atoms.

11-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein said composition comprises 10 to 5,000 parts by weight of the fertilizer component per 100 parts by weight of the activating agent.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 16, wherein said composition further comprises 10 to 5,000 parts by weight of other nutrients per 100 parts by weight of the activating agent.

19-21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) The composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein R represents an alkyl or alkenyl group having 13 to 29 carbon atoms.

23-29. (Canceled)